Washington, DC - The non-partisan veterans group Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America has released its second Congressional Report Card, awarding Congressm an Charles Gonzalez (TX-20)

a perfect score for his support of their legislative priorities in the 110th Congress.

"IAVA Action's 2008 Congressional Report Card recognizes those lawmakers who refused to compromise on the most important issues facing Iraq and Afghanistan veterans," said **Paul Rieckhoff, Executive Director of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA)**. "From passing a new GI Bill to increasing VA funding by over 10 billion dollars, the 110th Congress has made tremendous progress on behalf of America's newest generation of heroes. Congressman Gonzalez received an A+ from IAVA Action, and we would like to thank him for his leadership on these critical issues."

"Since their founding, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America has been one of the most potent forces and strongest advocates for veterans," said **Congressman Gonzalez**, "and I have been proud to work with them. As a representative of Militarytown, USA, I have fought for the men and women who fought for our country, and I am proud to be an ally of IAVA."

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America was founded in 2004 by Iraq veteran and United States Army First Lieutenant Paul Rieckhoff as the nation's first organization dedicated to the Troops and Veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and to the civilian supporters of those Troops and Veterans. In the succeeding four years, IAVA has grown to be one of the major voices on veterans' issues in this country. Representing the 1.5 million American servicemembers who have served in these two wars and their families, IAVA is dedicated to educating the public about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, advocating on behalf of those who have served, and fostering a community for troops, veterans, and their families.

###